

**EDDIE CLEARWATER**



**TWO TIMES NINE**



A LITTLE BIT OF BLUES  
 A LITTLE BIT OF ROCK & ROLL  
 BLAST OFF  
 CAME UP THE HARDWAY  
 2 x 9

CHICAGO DAILY BLUES  
 NASHVILLE RD  
 THE WORLD IS IN A BAD SITUATION  
 PAYMENTS ON MY WOMAN



Flamboyant is the ideal word to describe Eddie Clearwater. Everything about the man is stylish when you examine his attributes within the rock 'n' roll and rhythm 'n' blues framework. First of all the name, given to him in Chicago in the early fifties, is perfect – conjuring up interest straightaway. His appearance is all stage – stetsons, indian headdress, gold rings and a flashy guitar. And *on stage* it's slick routines and acrobatic dance-time. But most of all it's his music that ensures packed houses when he plays dates in the mid-west back home, and more recently across Europe. He has the happy knack of being able to deliver r 'n' b in its best-loved form, laced with city blues a little country and a touch of rock 'n' roll.

His musical upbringing probably has a lot to do with it – Eddie was exposed to all types of music as his family moved from Macon, Mississippi, across to Alabama and eventually up to Chicago. He'd heard country on his family radio, sang gospel in church and dug the blues in the clubs. When Chuck Berry emerged in the mid-fifties, riding an image that was just a little larger than life, Eddie Clearwater realised that Chuck's artistic direction was the natural one to follow. He soaked up the man's licks and added a few tricks of his own, developing a sharp club act that got him booked into the better-playing white clubs along the Chicago circuit.

In the early sixties when Chuck Berry's career and recording reputation slumped, Eddie happily turned in some very neat Berry-styled singles for LaSalle & Federal. In the years that followed 'The Chief', as he likes to be called, developed an on-stage reputation that holds true to this day. His recording boundaries now take in the many varied styles that he delivers on this album.

"A Little Bit Of Blues, A Little Bit Of Rock 'n' Roll" would make an excellent single, with its New Orleans funk leanings sounding very 80's, and "Blast Off" typifies the style of instrumental that Eddie and his band deliver in the clubs back home during the longer sets. The inevitable influence of the powerful B.B. King creeps in during the burning "Came Up The Hard Way", whilst "2 x 9", once a single in the States, is Berry-borrowed all the way.

More localised traits unfold on side two, with an echo of Elmore James pushing itself through the subtle "Chicago Daily Blues". One of the strongest cuts on the album, "Nashville Road" reminds us of those early

country influences. But as if Eddie had just prepared dinner, he's left the best till last, giving us the harsh social comment of "The World Is In A Bad Situation", balanced against the wry, Eddie Vinson-based humour of "Payments On My Woman".

All in all, there's a solid piece of modern r 'n' b here that serves as a fond reminder for anyone who has seen a Clearwater show, or as an encouraging taster to go and catch the man next time he's in town. Carry on the fine work Eddie Clearwater.

STUART COLMAN

EDDIE CLEARWATER	GUITAR & VOCALS
CASEY JONES	DRUMS
JON HILLER	DRUMS
MARK WYDRA	GUITAR
ALLEN BATTS	ORGAN & PIANO
JIMMY JOHNSON	GUITAR
TOM ECKARD	GUITAR
MARVIN JACKSON	BASS
SCOTT MEYER	BASS
DIMESTORE FRED	HARMONICA
ABB LOCKE	SAXOPHONE
LEROEY BROWN	BACKGROUND VOCALS

Produced By EDDIE CLEARWATER For CLEARSTONE PRODUCTIONS

Recorded At SOTO SOUND STUDIOS, Evanston, Illinois

Engineer: JERRY SOTO

Remixed & Mastered By: RON BARTOLUCCI At VISCOUNT STUDIOS, Cranston, Rhode Island

Final Editing: RUSS MARTIN Of VISCOUNT RECORDING STUDIO

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YLRAC

EDDIE  
CLEARWATER

2 + 9

**SIDE 1**

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**CRB 1025**

CRB 1025/A

1. A LITTLE BIT OF BLUES, A LITTLE BIT OF ROCK & ROLL
2. BLAST OFF
3. CAME UP THE HARD WAY
4. 2 x 9

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**YLRATHC**

**EDDIE  
CLEARWATER**

2 + 9

**SIDE 2**

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**CRB 1025**

CRB 1025/B

1. CHICAGO DAILY BLUES
2. NASHVILLE ROAD
3. THE WORLD IS IN A BAD SITUATION
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